# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

A.J.M. Garwood

Attorney Docket No: CRSL115949

Application No: 09/724,287

Group Art Unit: 1761

Filed:

November 28, 2000

Examiner: Drew Becker

Title:

PRODUCTS, METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FRESH MEAT

PROCESSING AND PACKAGING

### SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

January 27, 2003

## TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

#### In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 266-352.

Please add the following new Claims 353-421.

comprising:

A method for producing meat having a proportional fat content, (New)

providing at least a first and second stream of meat having at least fat;

treating at least the first and second streams with a bacteria-reducing agent;

measuring at least the fat content of the first and second streams;

transferring a controlled amount of the first and second streams to a vessel having

a selected gas;

blending the first and second streams in the vessel to provide a blended stream of proportional fat content;

transferring the blended stream into a barrier package;

removing oxygen from the package;

sealing the package to contain the meat and gas with a free oxygen level lower

than the oxygen level of air; and

testing the meat for the presence of bacteria.

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**OFFICIAL BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT** 

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### AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Seattle, Washington 98101

January 27, 2003

# TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

#### Amendment Transmittal A.

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

1. No additional claim fee is required, as shown below. \_X\_\_

2. The claim fee has been calculated as shown below.

COMPUTATION OF FEE FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED									
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid For		Present Extra		Rate		Additional Fee
Tota Claims	64	-	265	=	0	X X	.9 42	=	0 0
Independent Claims	5 TOTAL	-	105						\$0

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#### Additional Fee Charges or Credit for Overpayment B.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESSPLLC

Registration No. 46,649 Direct Dial No. 206.695.1725

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 1761, Examiner Drew Becker, at facsimile number 703/872-9083 on January 27, 2003.

Date:

January 27, 2003

LAC:/ws

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